

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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TAGS: ASCH, YO

SUBJECT: FY-74 GRANT ASSISTANCE TO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
OF BELGRADE

REF: BELGRADE 1950

1. REVIEW OF GRANT ASSISTANCE TO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
SINCE FIRST GRANT MADE FY-1965 REFLECTS ASSISTANCE
THROUGH FY-1972 TO SUPPORT OPERATIONAL COSTS HAS AVERAGED
ABOUT DOLS. 35,000 WITH LOW DOLS. 26,000 AND HIGH DOLS.
45,000. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE SPECIAL EMERGENCY SUMS
MONEY FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES, FOR EXPANSION RENOVATION
FACILITIES AND OTHER PHYSICAL PLANT NEEDS.

2. IN DECEMBER 1972 (FY-1973), DIRECTOR A/OS VISITED
ISB WITH CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE AND WAS ADVISED EXTREME
NEED FOR FUNDS, BEYOND PREVIOUS GRANT LEVEL, FOR EXPANSION
AND RENOVATION NEEDS AND TO MEET HEAVY EXPENSES
ATTRIBUTABLE INFLATION AND DOLLARS DEVALUATION. DIRECTOR
ADVISED WOULD SEEK ADDITIONAL FUNDING ON ONE-TIME
EMERGENCY BASIS ONLY, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT PROVIDED
FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE UNDER 1974 PROGRAM, LEVEL OF
ASSISTANCE WOULD PER FORCE HAVE TO REVERT TO APPROXIMATE
LEVEL ASSISTANCE GIVEN PRIOR FY-1973.

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3. ADDITIONAL FUNDS WERE SECURED AND MADE AVAILABLE ISB FOR ITS EMERGENCY AT A LEVEL NEARLY DOUBLE THAT AMOUNT GIVEN FOR ANY ONE YEAR PERIOD FROM THE INCEPTION OF THE GRANT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO THAT TIME. FYI, THE GRANTS MADE TO ISB IN FY-1973 REPRESENTED NEARLY 33 PERCENT TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE ALL EASTERN EUROPEAN SCHOOLS THAT YEAR. FOR THIS REASON DIRECTOR A/OS INSISTED UPON AND RECEIVED UNDERSTANDING THIS LEVEL ASSISTANCE TO ISB COULD NOT CONTINUE AND THAT ASSISTANCE WOULD HAVE TO REVERT TO ITS PRE-1973 LEVEL. IN THIS RESPECT, REO PARSONS ALSO ADVISED ISB COULD NOT LOOK TO FY-1973 GRANT LEVEL AS APPLYING TO FUTURE GRANTS.

4. WHILE DEPARTMENT SENSITIVE TO AND APPRECIATES ISB POSITION, DEPARTMENT MUST ALSO BEAR IN MIND NEEDS NEARLY 140 OTHER SCHOOLS WORLD-WIDE WHILE TOTAL LEVEL FUNDING FOR CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS PROGRAM CONTINUES DIMINISH EACH YEAR.

5. DUE LOWER LEVEL FUNDING AVAILABLE TO PROGRAM FOR FY-1974, CUTS WERE MADE TO SEVERAL SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FY-1973. GRANT TO ISB WAS REDUCED TO ITS PRE-1973 LEVEL WHICH NEVERTHELESS REPRESENTS NEARLY 20 PERCENT TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR ALL EASTERN EUROPEAN SCHOOLS.

6. LASTLY, INCREASED FUNDING NECESSARY FY-1973 FOR EXPANSION DUE PRIMARILY LARGE TCN ENROLLMENT WHICH NUMERICALLY NEARLY DOUBLE AMERICAN ENROLLMENT. USG WOULD LIKE TO SEE ALL USERS OF SCHOOL BEAR PROPORTIONATE SHARE COSTS TO OPERATE SCHOOL. IF GREATER TUITION NECESSARY MEET COSTS THEN THIS ONLY PRACTICAL BUSINESS-LIKE APPROACH TO RESOLVE PROBLEM. EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT INCREASED TUITION DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY MEAN MASS EXODUS OF TCN CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL. STUDY OF ENROLLMENT BY NATIONALITY REFLECT CHILDREN OF SAME THIRD COUNTRIES ENROLLED IN YOUR SCHOOL ENROLLED IN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN PARIS, ROME, BRUSSELS, THE HAGUE, MADRID PAY DOLS. 2,300, DOLS. 1,800, DOLS. 2,100, DOLS. 1,400 AND DOLS. 1,400 RESPECTIVELY IN GRADES 1-8 FOR THEIR

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